

September 1, 2015

FOIA COORDINATOR
Detroit Water and Sewerage Department
Water Board Building
735 Randolph, Room 701
Detroit, MI 48226

Re: FOIA Request

Dear DWSD FOIA Coordinator,

This is a request for public records or writings as most broadly defined under the Michigan Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). MCL 15.232 (e) and (h). I request that the following records be provided to me:

- I. Records of all residential water terminations for nonpayment from June 1, 2013 to the present date identified by zip code and street address.
- II. Records of all residential water terminations for illegal usage from June 1, 2013 to the present date identified by zip code and street address.
- III. Records of all residential turn-ons following a disconnection for nonpayment or illegal usage from June 1, 2013 to the present date identified by zip code and street address.
- IV. Records of all non-residential water terminations from June 1, 2013 to the present date identified by address and name of customer.
- V. Records of all non-residential customers who are at least 60 days overdue on their bills and scheduled for termination as of August, 2015 identified by address and name of customer.
- VI. Records of any postponed water service terminations based on litigation, negotiations or agreements between non-residential customers and DWSD from January 1, 2014 to the present date.

Nonexistent or Exempt Records

Should you decide to certify that a requested record does not exist or to invoke a FOIA exemption as the basis for withholding any record responsive to this request, please include sufficient information to comply with legal requirements. For an exemption, the following information must be included:

1. A description of each item withheld; and
2. An explanation of the basis for the determination that the public record is exempt from disclosure.

If you determine that portions of a record requested are exempt from disclosure, please separate or redact the exempt material and make the nonexempt material available to me. When separating or redacting material, please provide materials with the most detail possible without revealing the contents of the exempt information. As an example, the address 130 Main Street might be redacted to read 13_ Main Street.

Fee Waiver Request

I request that you reduce or waive all fees in connection with this request as provided by MCL 15.234(1) (waiver of fee is appropriate where search for and provision of copies of the public record can be considered as primarily benefiting the general public). As a not-for-profit journalist and filmmaker working on a documentary film and mapping project that tracks the amount and nature of water terminations on a general and block-by-block level. I will use the information to contribute significantly to public understanding of water issues in Detroit.

Record Delivery

To reduce or avoid copying costs, and to allow easy analysis and dissemination of the information, I request that records be provided in electronic format wherever possible, including but not limited to records that are stored or maintained in electronic format. In the event that DWSD asserts that some documents are only available in paper form, I ask for the opportunity to examine such documents in person, or to be contacted by the department explaining charges, rather than to incur any costs beyond \$200.00.

Please produce the requested records on a rolling basis; at no point should the search for – or deliberation concerning – certain records delay the production of others that the DWSD has already retrieved and elected to produce.

If you find that this request is unclear in any way please contact me immediately so I can clarify the request or otherwise expedite and simplify your efforts to comply.

In responding to this request, I ask DWSD to comply with all relevant deadlines and other obligations set forth in the Michigan FOIA.

I thank you kindly for your attention to this matter.

Best Regards,

Kate Levy
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Detroit, MI 48202
kateelizabethlevy@gmail.com